

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A packaging pouch for a microwave oven, which is hermetically sealed by heat-sealing a plastic film, comprising: a packaging pouch body and a branched section, the packaging pouch body and the branched section having first and second sides; and a vapor release seal part having at least one weakened part formed in the branched section, characterized in that opening preventive means are formed separately from one another on an inner side of a peripheral edge seal part of both sides of each of the branched section and an opposing section of the packaging pouch body opposing the branched section, wherein the peripheral edge seal part and the vapor release seal part each have a sealing strength of 2.3 kg/15 mm or more.

2. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that the vapor release seal part is formed continuously with respect to the peripheral edge seal part of the branched section.

3. (withdrawn): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that the vapor release seal part is formed separately from the peripheral edge seal part of the branched section.

4. (withdrawn): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that the vapor release seal part is provided with a through-hole, a semi through-hole, or a slit to thereby form a weakened part.

5. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that a notch is formed in the branched section of the packaging pouch inwardly into the pouch and a periphery edge of the notch is heat sealed to thereby form the vapor release seal part having the weakened part.

6. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized by satisfying the following expressions (1) to (4):

$$D \geq A+B \quad (1);$$

$$A \geq C \quad (2);$$

$$B \geq C \quad (3); \text{ and}$$

$$E \geq 2A \quad (4),$$

wherein: A represents an inner length of a short side of a packaging pouch body opposing the branched section; B represents an inner height of the branched section; C represents a height of a lower end of the vapor release seal part provided in the branched section; D represents an inner length of a short side of the packaging pouch; and E represents an inner length of a long side of the packaging pouch comprising the section opposing the branched section.

7. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that the plastic film forming the packaging pouch is heat-sealed to thereby form the opening preventive means.

8. (withdrawn): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 7, characterized in that the branched section is removed along an outer periphery of the opening preventive means formed in the branched section.

9. (canceled).

10. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 1, characterized in that pouring port forming means is formed at the periphery edge seal part of body of the packaging pouch opposing the branched section.

11. (original): The packaging pouch for a microwave oven according to claim 10, characterized in that laser processing is performed at an intended opening position to thereby form pouring port forming means.